OCTOBER
1951

Amateur Radio

JOURNAL OF
THE WIRELESS
INSTITUTE OF
AUSTRALIA

For the Experimenter
and Radio Enthusiast

9D.

Registered at G.P.O., Melbourne, for transmission by post as a periodical.

OCTOBER - - 1951

Vol. 19. No. 10

MSS. and Magazine Correspondence should be forwarded to the Editor, "Amateur Radio," Law Court Chambers, 191 Queen St., Melbourne, C.1, on or before the 8th of each month.

Subscription rate in Australia is 9/- per annum, in advance (post paid) and A10/6 in all other countries.

Wireless Institute of Australia (Victorian Division) Rooms' Telephone is FJ 6997.

AMATEUR RADIO

Published by the Wireless Institute of Australia,
Law Court Chambers, 191 Queen Street,
Melbourne, C.1

EDITORIAL

★

The Responsibilities of Membership

When discussing the organisation of a society such as the Wireless Institute of Australia, the remark has often been heard that "Divisional Councils have this or that responsibility to members," and whilst accepting this fact, it is also obvious that individual members also have responsibilities to their Divisional Councils and to the Institute as a whole.

On reviewing this question, it becomes apparent that members' responsibilities embrace such things as supporting their elected representatives in promoting an active and energetic vitality in their Division's general life and group activities.

This interest can be most helpfully displayed by members in shouldering their share of the work to be done, rather than leaving everything to the few reliable workers who frequently bear more than their share of the load.

We feel sure that you will agree that even the largest Divisions find it difficult to obtain office-bearers and helpers at times, and very frequently the excuse offered by some is that the affairs of the Divisions are run by a clique who do not want newcomers to enter their select circle. Now we consider this to be rationalisation to say the least—newcomers with new ideas always help to improve the progress of an organisation, and the Wireless Institute is no exception in this regard.

When you consider that the privileges we enjoy today have been obtained for us by such organised effort, there is no excuse for lack of enthusiasm by individual members in rising to the occasion when workers are in demand.

Have you ever stopped to examine the position, or to consider what unified control of Amateur activities has been achieved by the Wireless Institute of Australia—if so, you will have no difficulty in recognising that members have another responsibility insofar as it is their duty to obtain new members for their Division and thus strengthen our representation to the P.M.G's. Department when we approach them on behalf of the Australian Amateur.

Departmental officers have often publicly expressed the opinion that the conditions under which we operate today have been obtained only because of the friendly contact which exists between the P.M.G. Department and our organisation. The Advisory Committees, which we originally sponsored, have helped, in no small measure, to maintain this relationship and to ensure a friendly solution to breaches of the regulations.

Will you therefore do your part by taking an active interest in Divisional affairs next time someone is required to undertake official duties, and also start right now by securing some membership allocation forms from your Secretary and making definite visits to non-members with a view to enlisting them in your Division.

FEDERAL EXECUTIVE.

The Contents . . .

807s As Floating Screen R.F. Amplifiers

BY B. HANNAFORD,* VK2ALR

THE circuit to be described came from experiments with 807s as r.f. triodes. One circuit used an 807 with the screen resistor and by-pass condenser connected to plate. Another used an r.f. by-pass condenser between control grid and screen, the screen resistor being connected in the usual way. Both these circuits will work, the idea being to parallel the required elements for r.f. but still have normal d.c. screen volts.

If you wish to experiment on these lines, don't fail to remember there is a phase difference across the condenser so the elements are not really at the same instantaneous r.f. potential. With both these circuits neutralising will be required. A rather large capacity in the first circuit and a small capacity in the second circuit.

Using the second circuit, tests were made on the necessary capacity for the grid to screen condenser. Surprisingly, it was found that the condenser was apparently unnecessary. The circuit was quite stable with the screen floating. Now we have a third circuit with an un-by-passed screen grid and neutralised in the normal manner. For the want of a better name let's call this the floating screen circuit, the screen apparently having no definite r.f. potential. The circuit may be single ended or push-pull, the screens may be fed from a common resistor without trouble.

To sum up, the floating screen circuit is a normal tetrode circuit with neutralising added and the screen by-pass taken out. It can be plate and screen modulated and the drive requirements are the same as for tetrode connection. In fact, you might almost consider it a tetrode circuit with the neutralising cancelling out the feed-back due to the un-by-passed screen.

Consider it as we so desire, but what we really want to know is what are the advantages of its use? From the limited number of tests possible before writing this article, it appears the circuit has more stability than the usual 807 tetrode circuit. Perhaps this circuit has the stability we have always wanted but so seldom got without a lot of trouble. Perhaps by now you are interested and want to try the floating screen circuit for yourself. If so, a few points worthy of mention are as follows.

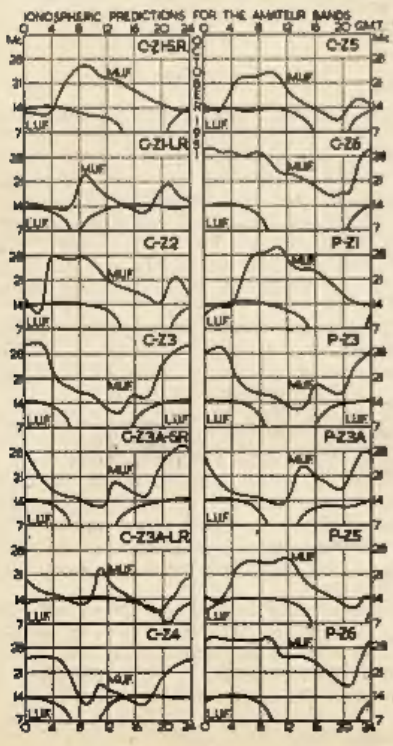
As regards neutralising circuits, use grid, plate, or cross neutralising as you like, but the neutralising capacity is very small. To make things easier, boost the tube's grid-plate capacity with a small external condenser. Then it will be found that a reasonable size neutralising condenser can be used and adjustments are easier to make.

When using push-pull with cross neutralisation, the neutralising condensers should be approximately equal. However, one interesting fact was observed, the screen currents of the tubes were unequal; the tubes were changed over, but the same side of the circuit still had the highest current. The screen currents were balanced by increasing one neutralising condenser two turns and decreasing the other two turns.

However, this state of affairs may have been due to unequal grid-plate capacity loading mentioned earlier. The screen resistor should probably be located right at the tube or tubes, but three feet of lead did not seem to matter on 7 Mc.

* 95 Wollombi Road, Cessnock, N.S.W.

PREDICTION CHART FOR OCTOBER, 1951



ERRATUM IN RULES OF THE VICTORIAN 576 Mc. CONTEST

Rule No. 4 should read as follows: Only one contact with any station on any one day will be counted for the purpose of this Contest unless either or both stations have changed their location, that is, from home to portable. However, an unlimited number of contacts with any one portable station will score provided the distance between the portable station and the station worked is increased by at least ten miles each time contact is made.

50 Mc. W.A.S.

Call	Certificate Number	Additional Countries
VK2WJ	13	3
VK4RY	2	2
VK2VW	9	2
VK5LC	1	1
VK6DW	3	1
VK4HR	4	1
VK3PG	5	2
VK3RR	6	1
VK3HT	7	1
VK2AEZ	10	1
VK3XA	11	1
VK3GM	12	1
VK3ACL	14	1
VK2ABC	8	

DR. A. L. GREEN

We record with deep regret the death of Dr. A. L. Green on 28th August, 1951. Dr. Green was born on 3rd February, 1905, at London, England. Educated King's College, London University, B.S.Sc. 1925, M.Sc. 1929. Investigator to Radio Research Boards, Councils for Scientific and Industrial Research Great Britain and Australia. Head of Commonwealth Ionospheric Prediction Service.

During his lifetime Dr. Green was foremost authority in Australia on Radio Propagation Phenomena and was instrumental in securing for the Institute the provision of the special chart which is published in this magazine each month. We Amateurs will always be indebted to "backroom" workers like Dr. Green whose untiring efforts to unravel the mystery of the Ionosphere have helped in no small measure to remove the uncertainty from DX hunting. F.E. in particular will always revere the memory of Dr. Green for his work on behalf of the W.I.A.

TELEVISION MADE EASY

Part ii.—How the Camera Works

BY JOHN JARMAN,* VK3ADA

As Hams, we are naturally more interested in the receiving side of television than the transmitting side, but in television, unlike sound broadcasting, one cannot learn the principles of reception without some knowledge of what takes place at the transmitting end. For this reason, the next two articles of this series will be devoted to television transmission, commencing with the camera.

Now so far, we've learnt that the camera takes photographs continuously at the rate of 25 per second, and splits each of these photographs into 625 horizontal lines, transmitting each of these, in succession, as a stream of electrical impulses, corresponding to the light and dark portions of each line. How does it do it?

Well, consider your domestic camera. It consists of a dark box, fitted with a lens, by which light rays, from a distant object, are focussed on to a film, where they cause chemical action, which produces the photograph.

Now a television camera also consists of a dark box with a lens, but instead of a film, the light is focussed on to a special "target" that turns light into electric current (Fig. 1).

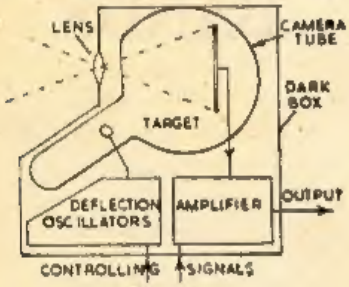


Fig. 1.

There are a number of different types of television camera in use, but to cover the general principles, it will suffice for us to deal with only one of them, and devote the rest of this article to the associated control equipment. (My, what a burst!)

First, let us study this 'ere target (Fig. 2). Contained in a vacuum glass bulb, it consists of a thin sheet of dielectric (e.g. mica), whose front surface is studded all over with minute particles of a special metal which gives off electrons when light shines on them, or, if you want to be technical, they are "photo-emissive." Although very close to each other, these particles don't touch one another, but resemble little islands.

On the rear surface of the target is a sheet of thin metal called the "signal plate," so that the aforementioned particles are like a lot of little condensers, joined to a common lead. After all, a condenser is simply two conductors with a dielectric between them, and in this case we have a particle and a signal plate, with a dielectric between them. Compare Fig. 2a and 2b, if this is not clear.

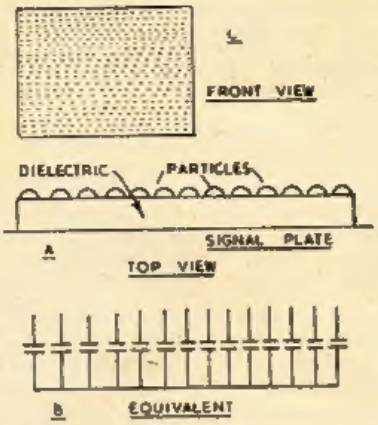


Fig. 2.

Now when light shines on the target, each little particle sheds a few electrons, the number depending upon the brightness of the light—so what? For a moment, we shall change the subject, and talk about condensers.

Consider a condenser, as shown in Fig. 3, with one plate connected to earth, through the resistor R. Now, remember, electricity is contained in everything, including plates X and Y, and when an object contains the correct number of electrons, it is said to be electrically neutral, as in Fig. 3a.

Let us now "rob" plate X of a few electrons, say two. Immediately, an equal number of electrons will "race" up from earth, through R, into plate Y, in an attempt to replace those taken from X (Fig. 3b). Let us now return to X the same number of electrons that we previously removed; in other words, we shall give X sufficient electrons to **make it neutral**. The extra electrons, which had gathered at Y, will at once realise that their service is no longer required, and "scram" back to earth, through R, so that a pulse of current flows through the latter.

Now consider a number of condensers, connected through a common resistor to earth, as in Fig. 4c, and suppose that from the upper plate of each condenser, a certain number of electrons be taken, as shown by the figures above. In each case, an equal number of electrons will enter the lower plate of the corresponding condenser, as in Fig. 3b.

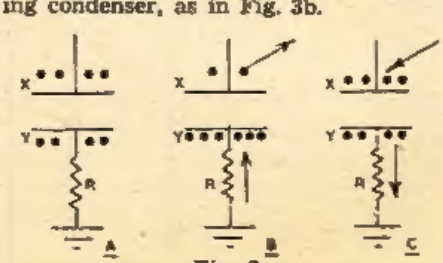


Fig. 3.

To each condenser, let us now give sufficient electrons to make it neutral. As each condenser is "satisfied," a number of electrons will flow down to earth, through the common resistor R, **equal to the number taken by each condenser.**

In other words, the common resistor will now carry a series of pulses of current, forming a pulsating d.c.

Having thus seen how pulsating d.c. can be produced by "discharging" a series of "charged" condensers (to use the correct electrical terms), let us now return to our television camera.

We have seen how light rays, focussed on the metallic particles on the target's face, cause each particle to emit electrons. Now for each electron emitted, an extra one will enter the signal plate, which is earthed through a resistor, just like the "common lead" we have been talking about.

Let's take a look at Fig. 4. "A" represents a typical line of the picture, as focussed on the target. (Refer back to last article, if necessary). "B" is a top view of the row of particles on the target, which will fall in this line.

Particles in the light parts will emit a lot of electrons, whereas those in dark parts will emit very few (note figures). "C" shows the condensers which these particles form.

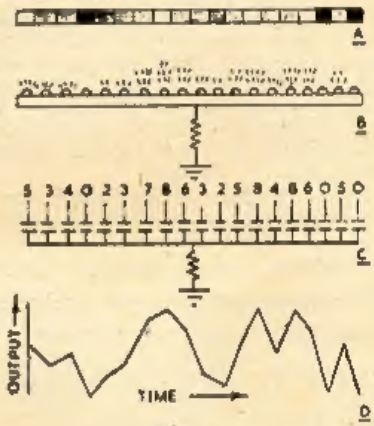


Fig. 4.

Now commencing from the left, suppose we discharge each of these condensers, by giving to each particle, in succession, sufficient electrons to make it neutral, i.e., the number it has lost. In each case, an equal number of electrons will leave the signal plate, and flow through R to earth, so that the current through R will be as graphed in Fig. 4d.

Therefore, our camera works, by first allowing the light to charge a lot of little condensers and then discharging them in succession.

But how does it discharge them in succession? Well, we saw in the last article how the electron beam of a cathode ray tube can be made to trace out a number of parallel horizontal lines. Suppose we put our target inside a cathode ray tube (Fig. 5) so that these lines will be traced out on the target's face.

Commencing at the top left-hand corner, the beam will now sweep across the top row of particles (Fig. 1c). Consisting of electrons, it will restore to each particle sufficient to make it neutral, i.e., the number it had previously emitted.

* A11426 L.A.C. Jarman, J.B., c/o. S./L. Garden, Box 1424H, G.P.O., Adelaide.

The action reminds one of the act of passing a box of chocolates along a row of hungry "harmonics" seated at a matinee.

Just as each kid would grab sufficient "lollies" to satisfy his appetite, so does each particle collect sufficient electrons from the beam to restore neutrality. After completing each line, travelling from left to right, beam will "jump" back to the left hand side of the target, and trace out the following line, ultimately reaching the lower right hand corner when beam will return to its starting point. All of this takes place 25 times per second, and as the beam travels over each line, the action outlined in Fig. 4 will take place, so that a burst of pulsating d.c. will flow through the load resistor R (Fig. 5), from which the output is taken.

This type of camera is known in England as the emitron, and in U.S.A. as the Iconoscope, and it will be noted that the output is obtained by "electrostatic induction" (though I shall not bother you too much with this big word).

It might be mentioned that in other types of camera, the output is taken from the electron beam which, after scanning the target, is made to return to an anode. The losses, which the beam suffers, in restoring electrons to the target, cause changes in anode current, which represent the camera's output. An example of this type of camera is the Image Orthicon, which is so sensitive that it will photograph a scene in the light of a match! Its operation, however, is beyond the scope of these articles.

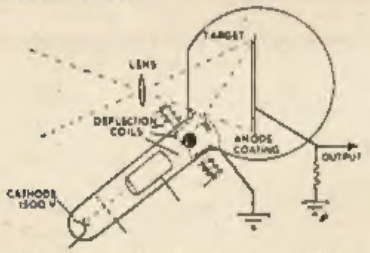


Fig. 5.—Emitron Camera Tube.

Having learnt the principle of operation of a typical camera tube, we, as Hams, will be more interested in the associated equipment.

The tube is of course contained in a dark box, fitted with lens and optical accessories. The camera case contains two saw-tooth oscillators (horizontal and vertical) to operate the scanning beam, and a small amplifier, to "boost up" the tube's output, before it leaves the camera. In many types of camera, portion of the output is fed into a small viewing cathode ray tube, mounted in the back of the camera case, to act as view-finder. Every camera is provided with headphones and microphones, which keep the cameraman in touch with the control room.

There are of course many other components in a television camera, but these are all we need bother about, in order to understand its operation, which is our main concern.

So far we've seen how the camera turns the picture into pulsating d.c. Before this picture signal can be used to modulate the transmitter, however, it undergoes some important modifications, some of which take place inside the camera, and others in the external equipment, as we shall see.

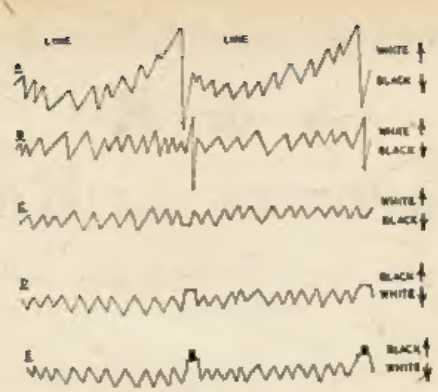


Fig. 6.

Let us first study the quality of this picture signal. Fig. 6a shows the signal as it leaves the tube. Note how it increases from left to right. This is called "Tilt and Bend" effect, and if not corrected, would cause the picture to appear brighter on one side of the screen than the other. Correcting signals, called "shading signals" are therefore mixed with the camera tube's output, which "flatten" it, as shown in Fig. 6b. Since the extent of this tilt and bend effect is constantly varying, the amplitude of these shading signals must be kept manually adjusted, to maintain correct balance.

Note also that at the end of each line, there is a high amplitude pulse, generated by the camera. This is removed, by applying suppressing signals (between lines and between pictures), so that the signal becomes as shown in Fig. 6c.

The picture contrast must also be constantly adjusted.

Theoretically, the camera tube's output at any black part of picture should be zero. Actually, however, the tube gives some appreciable output when a black portion is being scanned, so that if not corrected, black would be transmitted as grey, thus spoiling the picture contrast and general quality.

Furthermore, the tube's output, for black parts of the picture, does not remain constant, but varies appreciably.

Output must therefore be constantly adjusted, so that, briefly speaking, at any black part of the picture, no signal modulated the transmitter. This adjustment is called "setting the black level."

These faults are not common to all types of television camera, nor are they the only faults which television cameras suffer. There are plenty more, but these are probably the most common and have been mentioned here to illustrate the difficulty of keeping a good quality television programme on the air, compared with an ordinary sound broadcast.

Our signal, now "perfected," must be "inverted." We have seen that the brighter the picture, the greater will be the camera's output. In the last article, however, we learned that in Australia, negative modulation is to be used, so that arrangements must be made to ensure that the amplitude of the modulated carrier will **decrease** with picture brightness. In other words, the modulation system must be arranged so that the **darker** the picture, the **greater** will be the carrier amplitude, as in Fig. 6d.

In the spaces between the lines, synchronising signals are inserted, as shown in Fig. 6e, but we'll treat this in more detail in the next article.

Now, we've said a lot about adjustments that are made to the camera's output, during transmission. Who makes them?

Well, between the camera and the transmitter there is a very important device, called the Camera Control Unit, consisting of a large control panel, containing monitor screens and many dials and switches. Most television broadcasts use more than one camera, and the Camera Control Unit is arranged so that for each camera, there is a monitor screen, and a separate set of controls. The c.c.u. operator must carefully watch the picture produced by each camera and keep the output adjusted, so that this picture maintains good quality. By means of fading controls, he can also select whichever camera is giving the best view of the scene, and fade one scene into the other, just as one sees on the movies. By means of a small telephone system, he can also issue the necessary instructions to the cameramen whose job is to keep their cameras trained on the scene and adjust the optical focus of their cameras.

Before closing, just a word about synchronisation. We learned in the last article how the receiver must work in perfect "step" with the camera. Now, likewise, all cameras in the studio must work in step with each other and of course the generators which provide the shading and suppressing signals, described earlier, together with the generator, which inserts the synchronising signals in the transmission.

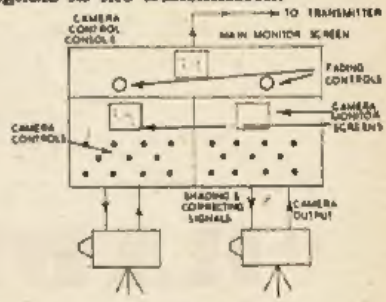


Fig. 7.

For this reason, all cameras and signal generators are controlled by a "master synchroniser" which may well be compared with the Sergeant Major, calling step to troops on the march, since the cameras, signal generators, and all receivers tuned in to the programme "take their orders" from this source, by keeping in step.

So far we've learnt how the camera turns the picture into electric signals, how the camera is controlled, and very briefly, how the receivers are kept "in step" with the camera. Before studying the receiver, we'll need to know more about the nature of these synchronising signals, which will be the subject of the next article.

Meanwhile, don't forget our query service. Mail your questions on Television to VK3ADA. The more we receive, the more we'll appreciate your enthusiasm. 73's till next month.

A Single Tube V.F.O.

BY JAMES JACK,* VK2AGX

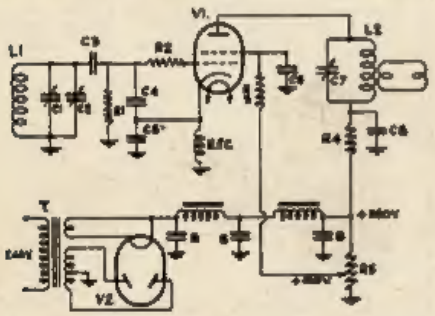
When the grid and plate circuits of a master oscillator are tuned to the same frequency, extensive isolation is necessary. But by tuning the plate circuit to twice the grid frequency, this difficulty is overcome and the use of isolator tubes avoided. This principle is employed in the following circuit.

This v.f.o. has been used here for some time with excellent results. Actually it came to me from VK2OQ, so if any honour is due for it, it belongs to Harry. Many chaps frown on single tube v.f.o's., but we have not had any bad reports regarding the operation of this one.

The circuit is very simple, doubling from 3.5 to 7 Mc. in the tube itself.

The band set condenser C1 should be one with good bearings and heavy plates and once tuned to the correct frequency need not be touched again. It has been found that by pruning L1 till the plates of C1 are about two-thirds in mesh, best stability will be obtained. It is essential to keep L1 well away from the tube so that it will not be effected by heat from the tube, in fact it is a good idea to shield L1 in a separate compartment and put L2 and the tube in another section.

The circuit is quite flexible and here we found that by omitting the first filter condenser, thus making the filter choke input, and feeding the screen from a 50,000 ohm resistor from the full B+ (about 250 volts), that there was sufficient drive to drive an 807 on 7 Mc. Also a 50 pF. condenser was used in place of C4, a 100 ohm resistor for R2, earthing the rotor of C7 and capacity coupling from the plate through a 250 pF. mica condenser to the grid of the next stage. If capacity coupling is used the length of the connecting line will effect the number of turns on L2. The longer the line, the less turns required.



C1—250 pF. variable (old b.c. type).
C2—25 pF. or less.
C3—150 pF. mica.
C4—25 pF.
C5—100 pF. (neg. coeff.)
C6—0.005 uF. mica.
C7—50 pF. variable.
C8—0.004 uF. mica.
R1—100,000 ohms.
R2—50 ohms.
R3—500 ohms.
R4—150 ohms, w.w.
R5—15,000 voltage divider.
RFC—2.5 mH.
T—385-0-385 b.c.l. transformer.
V1—6V6 or 6L6.
V2—80, 5Y3, 5Y4, etc.
Coils—L1: 3.5 Mc., 18 turns, 18 gauge, on 1¼" former; L2: 7 Mc., 18 turns 18 gauge, on 1½" former.

* 29 Matthew Street, Punchbowl, N.S.W.

AN APOLOGY

It is regretted that owing to lack of space in this issue, some regular features have had to be deleted.

I desire to express my regret to the contributors and hope they will not be discouraged.—Editor.

DX C.C. LISTING

PHONE

Call	No.	Ctr.
VK3EE	10	158
VK3JD	1	155
VK6RU	2	148
VK4HR	13	146
VK6KW	4	145
VK3BZ	3	141
VK4KS	9	135
VK3LN	11	132
VK6DD	6	126
VK3JE	7	123
VK4JP	5	114
VK3AWW	14	112
VK4WJ	17	104
VK4DO	20	104
VK4FJ	21	103
VK2ADT	13	102
VK3AHA	15	102
VK4WF	16	101
VK3PJ	19	101
VK3GO	16	100
VK3IG	8	100

CW

Call	No.	Ctr.
VK3BZ	6	183
VK4EL	9	163
VK3FH	15	167
VK2EO	2	153
VK3CN	1	151
VK4HR	3	150
VK6SA	28	150
VK3VW	4	143
VK2QL	5	141
VK3KB	10	139
VK6RU	18	135
VK2GW	16	132
VK5RX	23	132
VK3BO	33	129
VK4FJ	22	128
VK4RP	11	125
VK4DO	20	125
VK3JE	31	124
VK3EK	3	122
VK5FH	31	119
VK3JI	35	116
VK3UM	12	116
VK3XK	30	114
VK4DA	7	113
VK3PL	38	113
VK7LZ	17	112
VK4QL	36	110
VK4RC	13	107
VK3YD	27	106

OPEN

Call	No.	Ctr.
VK3BZ	4	202
VK4HR	7	187
VK6RU	8	181
VK3JE	12	180
VK3HG	3	171
VK3DI	2	170
VK3KX	1	167
VK6KW	13	165
VK4EL	10	163
VK4DO	15	151
VK4FJ	22	150
VK4KS	24	148
VK5FL	26	143
VK3MC	5	139
VK3OP	19	137
VK6DD	22	136
VK3LN	29	135
VK3ADE	28	133
VK2AHA	9	128
VK2AHM	30	125
VK2NS	18	123
VK3HT	41	123
VK3JI	33	119
VK7LZ	23	116
VK3AWW	45	115
VK3JA	43	114
VK2ADT	14	113
VK3VQ	46	113
VK3PG	47	111

CONTESTS

Remembrance Day Contest

The 1951 Remembrance Day Contest has successfully concluded with a larger number of participants than of previous years, indicating the desire of the Australian Amateur to honour the memory of those keys silenced forever whilst in the service of their country.

This Contest is unique in the annals of Amateur Radio in that no glory is attached to the individual, irrespective of the number of points scored by leading stations in each State, thus providing one of the rare occasions when the elusive DX is of no interest and giving one the opportunity of having short contacts with other VKs, many of whom we have known on Service. Not that the Contest is confined to Service personnel by any means—on the contrary this was exemplified by the large number of contacts which took place between the old-timers.

This year the Contest appeared to be more popular than ever, numerous calls being heard for the first time. VK9 stations were particularly active, operating on all bands from 3.5 Mc. to 30 Mc., thus providing a greater number of points than of other years. Of the calls heard for the first time, many were newcomers to the Amateur ranks —operating in their first Contest—the standard of operating being quite good. A number of stations did not make full use of the available bands—the 28 Mc. band being somewhat neglected—although those who persevered on this band were amply rewarded for their patience.

It is anticipated that the final scores will be published in the November issue of "A.R."

Jubilee Relay Contest

By the time these notes are published the Jubilee Relay Contest will have concluded and every corner of the earth should have been appraised of the fact that Australia is celebrating its Jubilee as a Commonwealth.

Radio Australia and other Empire Shortwave Networks have contributed to the publicity given the activities of the Australian and New Zealand Amateur, many requests being received for copies of the rules and log sheets. In addition, a talk will be given over the Australian Broadcasting Commission's National Network on the "Jubilee VK-ZL DX Contest" in News Review during the first week of October.

Jubilee VK-ZL DX Contest

All Amateurs in Australia and New Zealand should have now received a copy of the Rules and Log Sheet; any who have not, or any additional copies if required, can be obtained from Divisional Secretaries.

With reference to the rules, it has been suggested that an ambiguity could arise regarding the interpretation of the words "British Isles Prefix." These prefixes are G, GC, GD, GI, GM, and GW—not G2, G3, G4, etc.

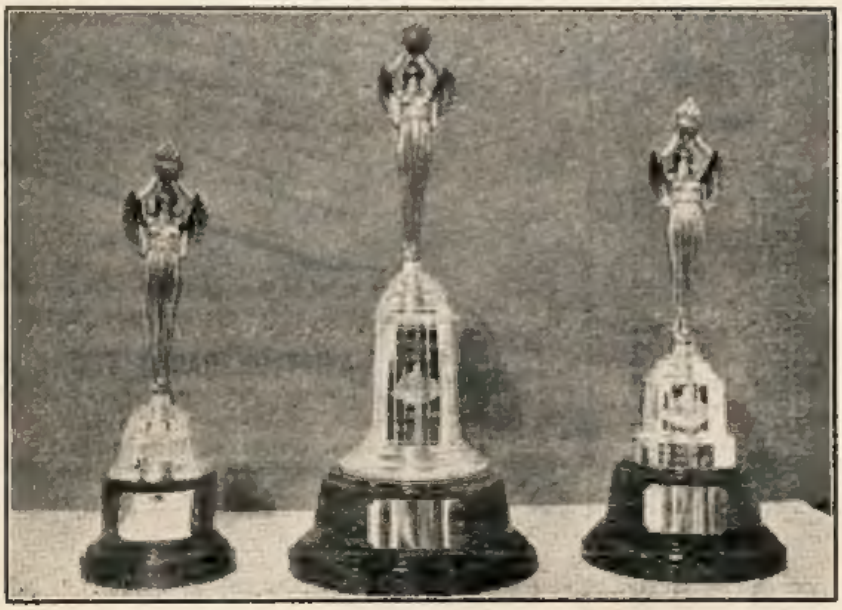
In the Receiving Section, Rule 3 should read: ". . . the strength and tone of the **calling** station." As set out in the Log Sheet and "A.R." it reads. "called station."

The trophies illustrated on this page are for the Open, Phone, and C.W. Sections. Certificates or medallions will be awarded for the winners on various bands.

The success of the 1951 Jubilee VK-ZL DX Contest depends on YOU! Don't forget to send in your log sheets irrespective of the number of contacts made, and don't forget to send them in early. The Committee has done its part in publicising this Contest to the world, and it is fervently hoped that conditions will be on the side of all those participating.

Remember, the C.W. Section commences at 0001 G.M.T., 13th October, concludes 1200 G.M.T., 14th October; Phone Section commences 0001 G.M.T., 20th October, concludes 1200 G.M.T., 21st October. Your logs should be in Sydney not later than 30th November. (Foreign logs not later than 31st January, 1952.)

In conclusion, the Jubilee Federal Contest Committee would like to thank Allen Fairhall, VK2KB, who is a member of the House of Representatives at Canberra, for his interest in pressing the Amateurs' case for recognition during the Jubilee Celebrations and obtaining thereby a monetary grant from the Commonwealth. The Committee also extend its thanks to W.I.A. Divisional Officers and Officers of the N.Z.A.R.T. who assisted so capably with the distribution of the Rules and Log Sheets.



Replicas of trophies to be won in the VK-ZL DX Contest.

Operating in R.D. Contest

My memories of the Contest are just a complete haze. I sat down at my operating position in the shack, and with three freshly sharpened pencils, together with ten clean sheets of paper, I prepared to do battle with all the other entrants in the battle of the numbers, I'm sorry, the Remembrance Day Contest.

Calling CQ Contest, in my best Rose Park manner, I prepared sedately to enter the first number received. Ten seconds later I was surrounded with pencils, numbers, call signs, and a couple of log sheets. When I came to, I was laying on the mat in the passage with my wife throwing water on me, and my daughter wearing a very worried look on her face, was asking what was the matter.

My wife, in a very resigned voice, explained to her that Dad was in a Contest and had become a little confused. My daughter said, "A radio contest? When my wife said "yes," my daughter lost interest with the words, "oh, that explains it all."

Nothing daunted, I girded my loins and with restored vigor, started throwing numbers at all and sundry. The next time that I went to the mat, my wife's mother who was visiting us had joined in the water throwing, and seemed to be getting quite a kick out of it. She was telling my daughter in an aside, "your father was always a little queer, my dear, even when he was first calling on your mother."

Gently rising to my feet, and sneaking in a sly kick in the shins to my mother-in-law, I forced myself back to the receiver and took a couple of hours more punishment before my spirit finally gave out, and as my wife tucked me into bed after saying my prayers, I never had enough spirit to answer back, as she said, "Petals, you've had a busy day!"

Well, there you are, that is the Remembrance Day Contest for you, and whilst you may not have had such a hectic four or five hours as I did, I'll bet there were a couple of times that you would have willingly gone to the mat.

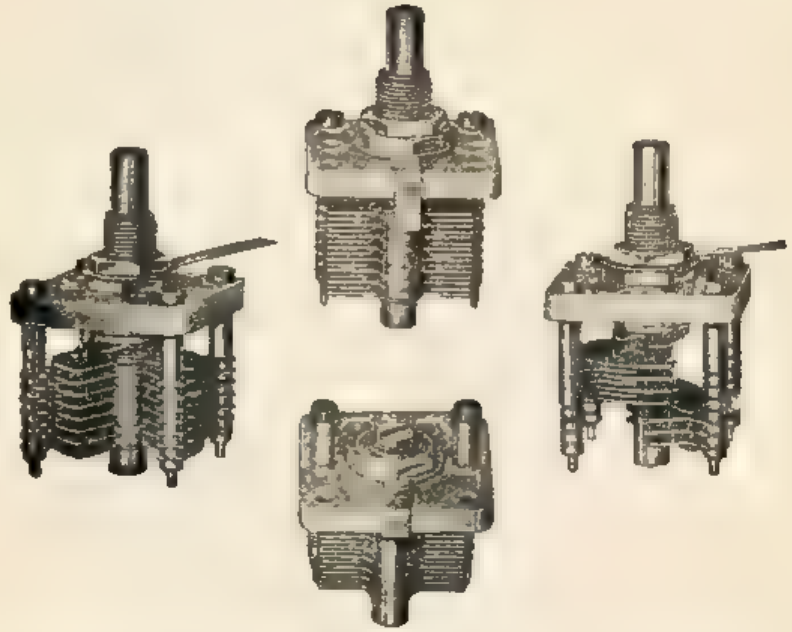
It was a grand contest, it meant renewing a lot of acquaintances that you had almost forgotten, and best of all, it is the finest way of paying homage to that gallant band of "Silent Keys."

—"Pansy" Parsons, VK3PS.

CERAMIC MICRODENSERS

Single Ended, Double Spaced, Butterfly, Split Stator, Differential

Cat. 580—Single Section 12.5 pF. double spaced.
Cat. 581—Single Section 60 pF screwdriver adjustment.
Cat. 582—Single Section 50 pF. extended shaft.
Cat. 583—25 x 25 pF. Split Stator.
Cat. 584—34 x 34 pF. Butterfly, is suitable up to 100 Mc
Cat. 585—Single Section 100 pF.
Cat. 586—140 pF. Single Section.
Cat. 587—15 x 15 pF. Butterfly.
Cat. 588—27.5 pF. Single Section.
Cat. 589—54 pF. Single Section.
Cat. 476—15 x 15 pF Split Stator.
Cat. 739—8 x 8 pF. Butterfly.
Cat. 719—25 x 25 pF. Differential.
Cat. 838—100 pF. Single Section double end plates for v.f.o. tuning, etc.



THERE IS AN EDDYSTONE MICRODENSER FOR EVERY NEED

DIRECTORY OF DISTRIBUTORS

- VICTORIA: J. H. MAGRATH & CO., 208 Little Lonsdale St., Melbourne.
- WILLIAM WILLIS & CO., 428 Bourke Street, Melbourne.
- N.S.W.: JOHN MARTIN PTY LTD., 116-118 Clarence Street, Sydney.
- Q'LAND: CHANDLERS PTY. LTD., Cr. Albert & Charlotte Sts., Brisbane.
- WEST. AUS.: CARLYLE & CO. LTD., Hay St., Perth, and 397 Hannan St., Kalgoorlie.
- ATKINS (W.A.) LTD., 894 Hay St., Perth.
- SOUTH AUS.: GERARD & GOODMAN LTD., 193-195 Rundle St., Adelaide.
- TAS.: W. & G. GENDERS PTY. LTD., 53 Cameron St., Launceston, and Liverpool Street, Hobart.
- LAWRENCE & HANSON (ELEC.) PTY. LTD., 120 Collins Street, Hobart.
- NOYES BROS. LTD., 36 Argyle Street, Hobart.

Australian Factory Representatives: R. H. Cunningham Pty. Ltd.
62 Stanhope Street, Malvern, Victoria. Phone: UY 6274.

RADIO PRODUCTS EDDYSTONE TRADE MARK

EDDYSTONE OFFERS YOU THE LATEST, MOST DEPENDABLE COMPONENTS for FM., AM., & PULSE

FEDERAL, QSL, and DIVISIONAL NOTES

Federal President: G. GLOVER (VK3AG); Federal Secretary: G. M. HULL (VK3ZS); Box 2611W, G.P.O., Melbourne.

NEW SOUTH WALES

President: John Moyle, VK2JU.

Secretary: David H. Duff (VK2EO), Box 1734 G.P.O., Sydney.

Meeting Night: Fourth Friday of each month at Science House, Corner Gloucester and Essex Sts., Sydney.

Divisional Sub-Editor: Don B. Knock, VK2NO, 43 Yanko Avenue, Waverley, Sydney.

Zone Correspondents. North Coast and Tablelands: Noel Hanson, VK2AHH, Ryan Ave., West Kempsey; **Newcastle:** Ron McD. Stuart, VK2ASJ, 98 Dunbar St., Stockton, **Coalfields and Lakes:** Harry Hawkins, VK2YL, 27 Comfort Ave., Cessnock, **Western:** W. H. Stitt, VK2WH, Cambijowa, Forbes, **South Coast and Southern:** Roy Raynor VK2DO, 42 Pettit St., Yass; **Eastern Suburbs:** Don Knock, VK2NO, 43 Yanko Ave., Waverley; **Northern Suburbs:** Harry Powell, VK2AYP, Russell Ave., Wahroonga, **St. George:** Chas. Coyle, VK2YK.

VICTORIA

President: G. S. C. Semmens, VK3GS.

Secretary: C. Dyer (VK3DY), 13 Collington Ave., Brighton (XA 8326).

Administrative Secretary: Mrs. S. May, Law Court Chambers, 191 Queen St., Melbourne.

Meeting Night: First Wednesday of each month at the Radio School, Melb. Technical College.

Zone Correspondents: Western: C. C. Waring, VK3YW, 12 Skene St., Stawell, **South Western:** K. O'Rorke, VK3AKR, Killigrew, Westmere; **North Eastern:** T. K. Tennant, c/o. Victory Theatre, Tatura; **Far North West.:** M. Folle, VK3GZ, 101 Lemon Ave., Mildura; **Eastern:** H. O. Kellas, VK3AHK, Tinambra; **North Western:** C. Case, VK3ACE, Cummign Ave., Birchip.

WI BROADCASTS

All Amateurs are urged to keep these frequencies clear during, and for a period of 15 minutes after, the official Broadcasts.

VK2WI: Sundays, 1100 hours EST, 7196 Kc. and 2000 hours EST 50 and 144 Mc. No frequency checks available from VK2WI. Intra-State working frequency, 7175 Kc.

VK3WI: Sundays, 1130 hours EST, simultaneously on 3598 and 7196 Kc. and re-broadcast on 50 and 144 Mc. bands. Intra-State working frequency 7185 Kc. Individual frequency checks of Amateur Stations given when VK3WI is on the air.

VK4WI: Sundays, 0900 hours EST, simultaneously on 3750 Kc., 7196 Kc., 14343 Kc., 52.4 Mc. and 144.138 Mc. Frequency checks are given two nights weekly, and the times are announced during Sunday broadcasts. 7065 Kc. channel is used from 1000 to 1030 hours each Sunday as VK4 query service to VK4WI.

VK5WI: Sundays, 1000 hours SAST, on 7196 Kc. Frequency checks are given by VK5DW by arrangements only on the 7 and 14 Mc. bands.

VK6WI: Sundays, 0930 hours WAST, on 7196 Kc. No frequency checks available.

VK7WI: Sundays, at 1000 hours EST, on 7196 Kc. and 146.5 Mc. No frequency checks are available.

QUEENSLAND

President: J. H. Farrell, VK4WJ.

Secretary: J. F. Pickles, VK4FP, Box 632J, G.P.O., Brisbane.

Meeting Night: Third Friday in each month at the I.R.E. Rooms, Wickham St., Valley.

Divisional Sub-Editor Clive J. Cooke, VK4CC, Kuran Street, Chermside, Brisbane.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

President: E. A. Barbier, VK5MD.

Secretary: G. M. Bowen, VK5KU, Box 1234K, G.P.O., Adelaide.

Meeting Night: Second Tuesday of each month at 17 Waymouth St., Adelaide.

Divisional Sub-Editor: W. W. Parsons, VK5PS, 10 Victoria Avenue, Rose Park.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

President: J. Campbell-Watson, VK6JW.

Secretary: H. B. Lang, Box N1003, G.P.O., Perth, W.A.

Meeting Place: Perth Technical College Annexe, Mounts Bay Road, Perth.

Meeting Night: Second Monday of each month.

TASMANIA

President: R. O'May, VK7OM.

Secretary: L. W Edwards, VK7LE, Box 371B, G.P.O., Hobart.

Meeting Night: First Wednesday of each month at the Photographic Society's Rooms, 163 Liverpool St., Hobart.

Divisional Sub-Editor: S. Excell, VK7SJ, 77 Molle St., Hobart, Tasmania.

North Zone Correspondent: C. A. Cullinan, VK7KW, 12 Montrose Place, Launceston.

FEDERAL

HANDBOOK FOR OPERATORS OF AMATEUR WIRELESS STATIONS

In view of the fact that many members are interpreting the Regulations from the Handbook for Operators of Amateur Wireless Stations, January, 1948, which is now somewhat out of date, F.E. are delegating these columns to a complete errata and amendments to bring this book up to date.

It is strongly suggested that every Amateur spare an hour to complete these amendments to his Handbook, and at the same time refresh his mind on the details of the regulations under which he is licensed to operate his station.

Amendments up to 31st August, 1951

In all places where mentioned, delete "Chief Inspector (Wireless)" and insert "Assistant Director-General (Wireless)."

Page 3, para. 2: Delete the definition of "duplex operation."

Insert the following: "'Third party' means another person besides the two principals (one of whom is at the transmitter and one at the receiver).

"'Broadcasting station programmes' means programmes broadcast by stations operating on the medium frequency broadcast band, i.e., 535 Kc. to 1605 Kc. but, in remote areas where, because of unsatisfactory medium wave reception, it is usual for listeners to rely on programmes originating from high frequency broadcasting stations situated within the Commonwealth or its Territories, such programmes are also to be included in this definition."

Page 4, para. 15. Delete. Insert: "An application to install and operate an Amateur station at a Department of Navy, Army, Air or Supply establishment, depot, camp, etc., may not be considered unless the approval, in writing, of the Department concerned has previously been obtained. In the case of the Departments of Navy, Army, and Supply, such approval may not be recognised unless issued by the Central Administrations, Melbourne. Authority in this connection has been delegated by the Department of Air to Area Headquarters in the States concerned. The question of the operation of an Amateur Station on Department of Civil Aviation property is a matter between the Regional Director concerned of that Department and the applicant."

Page 6, para. 29: Third line, amend to read. "Their use for instructional purposes is confined . . ."

Page 6, para. 32: Amend to read: "An Amateur station licensee may transmit in English and receive in any recognised language, plain language messages . . ."

Page 6, para. 33: In the fourth line after "direct or indirect" insert the words: "or any matter of a commercial character." At end of paragraph, insert: "The relevant regulation under the Wireless Telegraphy Act 1905-1936 concerning this matter reads as follows: '56 (3). The licensee of an Amateur Station shall not, except in writing of an authorised officer, undertake the transmission or reception of messages for third parties'."

Page 6, para. 36: Third line after "emanating from other Amateur Stations," insert "irrespective of the frequency of the originating transmission."

Insert new paragraph: "36A. Subject to certain conditions, a limited number of permits to record and re-play transmissions from other Amateur Stations operating in the Amateur frequency bands below 50 Mc. are issued as from September of each year to the licensees of Amateur Stations by the Superintendent, Wireless Branch, in the various States."

Insert new paragraph: "36B. The licensee of any Amateur Station may, in the Amateur frequency bands of 50 Mc. and upwards, record and re-transmit transmissions from other Amateur Stations operating in these bands. The equipment so employed must be capable of producing recordings of high quality. Re-transmissions made at the request of an individual station are to be limited to a period not exceeding five minutes in the aggregate in any one day."

W.I.A. ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

October 13-14: VK-ZL Jubilee Contest (C.W. Section).

October 20-21: VK-ZL Jubilee Contest (Phone Section).

Page 7, para. 42: Fourth line, after "licence or special permission" add "In this connection, due regard must be paid to the provisions as indicated in paragraph 15."

Page 7, para. 43: Delete following portion, "In certain cases . . . three months."

Insert in lieu thereof: "In certain cases, temporary permits to operate portable or mobile stations within any of the authorised Amateur frequency bands below 50 Mc. may be granted for a period normally not exceeding three months in any one current year of the licence."

Page 7, para. 50: Delete. Insert: "An Amateur Station licence may be granted to a radio officer, or other qualified person, to operate an Amateur Station on board an Australian ship on which he is employed, if the approval of the Master of the vessel is obtained. Such a licence confers the right to operate the station at all times except while the vessel is anchored in any harbour, or moored to any wharf or pier belonging to another Administration. Permission to operate the station while so located must be obtained from the Administration concerned."

Page 7, para. 53: Delete. Insert. "Any person who has been licensed by a foreign Administration to install and operate an Amateur Station on board a ship, yacht, etc., shall not operate his station while the vessel is anchored in any harbour or moored to any wharf or pier in Australia or its Territories without the approval, in writing, of the Assistant Director-General (Wireless)."

Page 11, para. 86: After the word "persons" add. 'Electrical wiring associated with Amateur installations must comply with the safety standards demanded by the Electrical Supply authority concerned. In addition, licensees must take all other reasonable precautions considered expedient for the particular installation."

Page 11, para. 89 Delete "165" in the last line and substitute "144"

Page 12, para. 95: Add to this paragraph: "While single components such as valves, transformers, etc., capable of handling power in excess of that authorised shall be permitted for use in Amateur Stations, unless prior permission has been obtained from the Superintendent, Wireless Branch, no combination of such components may be so used."

Page 12, para. 95: Delete all figures and substitute the following:—

3.5	—	3.8	Mc.
7	—	7.2	,,
14	—	14.4	,,
26.96	—	27.23	,,
28	—	30	,,
50	—	54	,,
144	—	148	,,
288	—	296	,, (Temporary)
575	—	585	,, (Temporary)
1,215	—	1,300	,,
2,300	—	2,450	,,
5,650	—	5,850	,,
10,000	—	10,500	,,
21,000	—	22,000	,, (Temporary)
30,000 Mc		Upwards	Temporary)

Page 12 para. 102: After "Pulse" emissions add "N.F.M. Narrow band frequency modulation telephony. Transmissions to be confined within plus or minus 3 Kc. of the quiescent carrier frequency. Type A3a waves, S.S.S.C., single sideband reduced carrier telephony."

Page 13, para. 105: Under "Type A0 waves" delete "166" and substitute "144". Under "F.M." amend to read. "The band 26.96-27.23 Mc. and all authorised frequency bands from 50 Mc. upwards." Under "Pulse" delete "166" and substitute "144". After "Pulse" add: "N.F.B. (narrow band plus or minus 3 Kc.) All authorised bands. Type A3a waves (single side band reduced carrier all authorised bands except the band 26.90-27.23 Mc."

Insert new paragraph: "105A. Where pulse transmission is employed, the length of each pulse and the nature of the emitted wave-shape shall be such as to restrict the radiated sidebands within the limits of the Amateur frequency band in which the transmission is taking place."

Page 13 para. 110: In second and last lines delete "166" and substitute "144".

Page 14, para. 111: Delete the words "and duplex" from both the heading and the second lines of this paragraph. Delete also the words "In the case of duplex operation" from the fourth line and the word "however" from the fifth line.

Page 15, para. 121: Under sub-paragraph (e), delete "(Except 0 or 1)".

Page 16 para. 130: Delete "166" and substitute "144".

Page 16 para. 132: Add new paragraph, "132A. Provided that portable and/or mobile stations which are using telegraphy indicate their location (including the State) at the end of the initial call and immediately before conclusion of a session as required by paragraph 133, the suffix '3 2' etc. (to indicate the State from which operation is taking place) may be added to the station call signs for intervening calls and the word 'portable' or 'mobile' may be omitted therefrom."

Page 25, appendix 3: In third line, delete the word "Assistant" and amend address to read "340 Collins Street, Melbourne, C.1".

Page 27: Delete "Duplex Operation . . . 2,111"

Page 28: Under "Mobile Amateur Stations" add further paragraph "132A".

Page 29: Under "Portable Amateur Stations" add further paragraph "132A". Under "Pulse transmissions" add further paragraph "105A". Under "Recordings-Re-transmission by" add further paragraphs "36A, 36B".

— • • • —

FEDERAL QSL BUREAU

RAY JONES, VK3RJ, MANAGER

An award worth achieving is the "Worked All America" Award instituted by Liga de Amadores Brasileiros de Radio Emissao to encourage interest in the American area. The W.A.A. award is for confirmed contacts with 45 or more of the 57 countries listed in the entire Americas and is available to Amateurs everywhere in the world. Confirmations have to be forwarded direct to L.A.B.R.E. Headquarters, Box 2353, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Further information as to additional conditions may be had from this Bureau.

Many VK stations will be interested to know that the first batch of QSLs from FG7XA, Guadeloupe, arrived here early in September. Phil CM9AA and Lily Richard CM2AC, during their 12-day sojourn at Guadeloupe, worked 110 countries and W.A.C. Phone eight times and c.w. 12 times. The Tx used ran 50 watts and all antennae were folded dipoles.

From the Southern California DX Club bulletin for June, 1951 "I am surprised to hear that the A.R.R.L. is bouncing AR8AB cards. As I know Jean quite well and I am sure that all is OK. I will write the A.R.R.L. and see what I can find out." The foregoing is portion of a letter the Bulletin received from Don ex-DL4QH.

The abovementioned journal also publishes the fact that VK1VU will not QSL. Don Wallace W6AM is, however, persisting with his endeavours to extract a card, but his cajolery and inducements are still falling on deaf ears.

From Stan Mayne, VR2AS, dated 17th April, 1951 "Why the world seems to think the VR2 Bureau is the centre for all the Pacific, goodness only knows. For the past year I've been forwarding on VR1, VR3 and VR5 cards. Like the wharfies, I've now struck. The cost of postage is too hot and in this small place we have no club to finance things. VK boys are bad offenders in this respect also. I have returned them to you to let the boys have them back. If you get a chance put a word in for me in the VK journal." Well Stan, there it is and I hope it relieves you of some of the inconvenience and expense.

VK1BS, Bill Storer, a Sydney P.M.G. telegraphist, who prior to commencing duty at Macquarie Island, did not have a Ham ticket, wants all QSLs for him to be sent to the VK2 Bureau. He is not due back until May, 1952. Bill says that VK1WO, also on Macquarie, is nearly ready to "fire".

Above par came from Eric Trebilcock, BERS 185 who now has 198 countries confirmed post-war. Seems to me Eric that listeners do better than Hams in this respect. Eric also states that there is a possibility of Ham operation from Cocos Island (ZC2) in the near future, when D.C.A. staff commence duty there.

Another award well worth striving for is the Diploma of the French Union (D.U.F.), sponsored by the R.E.F. Under the amended rules of March, 1951, the award will consist of four sections. The first section requires confirmed contacts with stations of the French Union situated in three continents including Europe and totalling five countries. The second

CRYSTAL SWAP

We have received several requests from readers to commence a section listing Crystals available for exchange.

This service will be entirely free and all that is necessary is to forward details of the Crystal to the Editor "A.R." Crystals will be listed ONCE only.

section requires four continents including Europe and eight countries. The third section requires five continents including Europe and 10 countries, while the fourth and final section requires six continents including Europe and sixteen different countries. The award is progressive and sections may be claimed progressively. Completion of the sections entitles the applicant to receive a special medal, silver-plated and stamped to indicate the holder. The reverse side of the medal is graven with the number of the fourth section diploma obtained. Certificates for each section are free but the medal costs 700 francs. Confirmations and applications for any of the sections should be submitted to this Bureau, and do not have to be forwarded to the R.E.F. The first VK winner of the complete sections and medal as far as is known is VK2DI.

Cards incoming to the Bureau during the month of August were well below the average in numbers and probably this is a reflection of the poor and erratic conditions prevailing on the DX bands for the past twelve months.

Interesting cards sighted during August are YI3BZL (ex-G3BZL, whose home QTH is J. E. Blore, 27 Fountain St., Leek, Staffs., England); MD2PJ, of Tripoli, Libya, or via R.S.G.B.

ACCURATE FREQUENCY TRANSMISSION RESULTS

The following is the official results of the Accurate Frequency Transmission from VK3WI on 23rd August, 1951, on the 3.5 Mc. band:—

3500	Kilocycles	20	cycles	low
3530	"	40	"	"
3560	"	25	"	"
3590	"	35	"	"
3620	"	30	"	"
3650	"	52	"	"
3680	"	20	"	"
3710	"	45	"	"
3740	"	20	"	"
3770	"	60	"	"
3800	"	16	"	high

NEW SOUTH WALES

The August general meeting of the N.S.W Division was held at Science House on Friday, 24th, with the President, John Moyle, in the chair. The attendance wasn't as good as usual there were some vacant seats at the back. This may have been partly due to the fact that the monthly bulletin was not sent out this month and looks a wee bit like the "do-do" on present appearances. (Surely everybody knows that the meeting night is on the fourth Friday though). This wiping of the bulletin without notice in such precipitate fashion brought forth some criticism at the meeting, but when it was explained that the cost of production had soared to £175 per annum (including postage) and that it had to get to press so early now that the contents were stale by the date of receipt, a motion was passed endorsing Council's action.

The meeting was unlucky enough to strike the zone blackout night and in consequence the first part of the proceedings were conducted in a dim religious kind of light emanating from two pressure lamps, until 8.45 p.m. Those who missed the meeting should proceed to kick themselves heartily, for they missed a treat.

Nev Williams 2XV was the highlight of the evening with his talk and demonstration on wire and tape recorders. After the lucid discourse we all know something about recorders at last, and after the demonstration we went home with that glow of satisfaction one derives from an evening well spent.

The versatility of the tape recorder from the viewpoint of editing and production was revealed by an exerpt from the well known farce, "The Mill Girl," on the platform with the assistance of Miss Ruth Plummer and Mr Phil Watson, who kindly came along for the purpose. The lines were purposely scrambled somewhat to turn the recording of the show into a producer's nightmare, but with a few deft flips of the control the mistakes were expeditiously wiped off the tape, and the recording taken up again from the interruption. The final edition was as smooth as a baby's cheek with no trace of the stops and cuts.

The audience laughed until their sides and jaws ached at the next demonstration. A harmless recording of a Ham transmission on the 7 Mc. band was first played as it came over the air and then as "edited" by some of the boys from the newspaper office. Lots of dreadful remarks and hilarious sound effects had been effectively injected. The demonstration concluded with an interesting companion of the same orchestral piece, firstly on the tape, then on a conventional home disc recording made by the President, and then on a commercial microgroove recording.

Don't forget the Annual Field Day at Woy Woy on Sunday, 18th November. Besides the usual Amateur attractions, a special programme has been arranged this year for the ladies and the youngsters. Also, don't forget to listen to the weekly VK2WI broadcasts for announcements of meetings and all other relevant news, especially now that the bulletin is in a state of—shall we say—suspended animation. This Division takes this opportunity to welcome Lyell Woolnough 2QW, one of the dyed-in-the-wool old timers, to the Council.

The Divisional sub-editor is grateful this month to 2YK and 2GW for items of news interest and "copy."

ST GEORGE ZONE

I have been listening on and off for the last month to try and hear some of the local boys on 20, but VK2s were conspicuous by their absence, and as I have been very, very busy lately (exam. next Tuesday night, thank heavens!), I have not been around to see the local lads. I would like to know if 2ASK, 2JJ, 2XW, 2SW, 2ALT, 2AIL, 8AGH, 2BN and 2AHV are still poking holes in the ether; if they are, I have not heard a single peep out of any of them.

2AGH and 2BN could of yore be heard DXing mostly at any time, but both are very quiet now. 2JJ, I believe, is now in JA land, and 2ASK and 2SW are cruising around the ocean somewhere, but what has happened to "All In Love"? He must be sick or something. Heard 2SA on 10 recently, but not once did I hear anybody come back to his CQs—keep trying Wal! Also heard 2XX on v.h.f. making contacts now and then.

Listening on 20 has been very "dead" and I have not been able to listen on 40, 240 volts on the aerial coil did not improve things at all. Anyhow, boys, I will be around to see you after Tuesday each month so if you hear or know of news or items of interest for these columns, keep it in mind for me. Most of you know my QTH: 84 Carlton Cres., Kogarah Bay.

EASTERN SUBURBS

Congrats are in order for John 3CF who recently became engaged to a charming YL named Denise. John is making up a new Rx and relegating the Type 3BZ to a stand-by role. A Type ASV Rx has been converted for 144 Mc. application but John doesn't consider it much of a success. Over towards the south, Vince 2VA has a new interest on 14 Mc. It is a s.s.b. outfit which, at time of writing, seems to have teething troubles. The indefatigable "Victor Able" however will no doubt have the gremlins chased away in due course.

2ARH, along with other locals, has been through the hoops with the gastritis wog that seems to have swept through this part of the metropolis. Ray is so busy writing about technical radio that he finds little or no time left to get on the air on any band. Antenna repairs have been in order at the writer's station, the gale-wrecked G8PO/Triplex being replaced by a Delta-matched version for 14 Mc. On 7 Mc., the 75 ohm doublet has given way to a 136 ft. off-centre 300 ohm ribbon-fed multiband affair which gives promising results all round. Heard 2AYE tackling DX phone on 20 without much luck. QRM spoiled the effort, but Dave will land that G yet. Even so, one is not in the pandemonical race without a beam or array of some kind.

NORTH COAST AND TABLELANDS

Quite a few of the gang are busily engaged in the establishment of a coastal network on 144 Mc. Peter 2PA at Port Macquarie is putting out a good signal from a pair of 7193s using a 3 over 3, he has been received at good strength by 2AHA in Kempsey on an ASV301 and a three element beam. 2XO, 2GI, 2WC and 2AWS also getting under way. Carl 2CJ knocked up an f.b. Lecher wire frame for 2PA. What about 144 Mc. signal from Bill 2AEY at Taree. North Coast boys think it is an excellent scheme to keep the low end of 6 clear for break throughs. Doc 2LH reckons he has to carry his 6 metre signals over to Chas 2ADE's place to get a report. 2UC, 2AGM and 2WT are also dabbling on 6. Quite a few of the gang were active during R.D. Contest.

Most N/C chaps heard on 80 of an evening and some of the Inverell boys have come out of hibernation, Ted 2ZX seems to be the most active. Roy 2NY puts S max. signals into Kempsey on 40. Ted 3DX often heard amongst the DX on 20 as is Doug 2SH. DX often heard calling Syd 2APS who spent a few days at Urunga recently and renewed acquaintances with the coastal boys. 2XO Crieff bogged down with the flu, but nearly back to his old self again. Len 2LR is now busy using a controlled carrier set up. Harry 2ARY tangling with tape recorders, at the moment of writing is rather ill, we all wish him a speedy recovery. Trust Keith 2GI and family are all OK. Joe 2GL seems to be in a lot of trouble pulling dials to pieces, one OT said he was using a VT501 as an r.f. amplifier in the Rx. Joe 2AYH visited the N/C zone recently staying at Tamworth.

Associate Percy Sara hit the headlines again when his "four element beam" celebrated its first birthday. The Quads look really well Percy! While mentioning associates, I would welcome a note from any of you with information gleaned from your "mail reading". Norm, of Kempsey, should be a fully fledged associate soon. An historic meeting took place recently when Ray 2HC and Russ 2WT met for the first time, although they first had a QSO in 1936, both long blokes but Ray won by a short head. Ken 2APB has just finished a vee beam for 40, but is temporarily transferred from Coffs Harbour to points farther north, hopes to take portable gear along with him.

HUNTER BRANCH

Hunter Branch history was made on 10th August when a very successful meeting was held at Maitland. There were 48 present, including Dave 2AYE (representing Divisional Council), members of I.R.E. and representatives of the trade. Those present were privileged to hear Joe 2JR at his very best. The lecture—"Master Oscillators"—was given by means of tape recorder and slides, manipulated by Joe who, at the conclusion of the lecture, answered the many queries flung at him. In response to the thanks expressed by our President 2CS, Joe mentioned that he began his radio in the Newcastle district and that it would always give him the greatest pleasure to give any help possible to the Branch. Members feel that they can claim Joe as "One of our mob." The opportunity was taken at Maitland to present to Jack 2ADT the first prize for the 1950 scramble.

Hugo 2WH recently paid a flying visit to Newcastle, but short notice did not permit the band being out to meet him. Other visitors to the city were 2AEY 2AAQ and 2RM. Hunter lads who entered the R.D. Contest made a good show. Harold 2AHA appeals to the boys to put forth their best efforts in the Jubilee Contest, and thereby show their appreciation of the good work done by their fellow member 2KB Alan Fairhall in gaining the support of the Government in the VK-ZL Jubilee Contest. 2ANA was one who logged a VK9 in R.D. Norm did well on the key. Harry 2AFX also managed to get on and work a few. 2PJ was only on for a couple of hours, but Bill put up good show in his first contest.

Interest aroused by Maitland meeting. Vic 2AKP is on air again with nice 40 metre phone. 2XQ worked very hard in R.D. Contest, resulting in John blowing all volume controls in Rx! 2ANL on 40 again and Joe is talking of 144. Pleased to report 2MR active once more. Edgar had argument with fence, broke ribs, then pleurisy but OK now. 2AGD getting out well on 40 and George recently landed a VK1 on phone. Tom 2PQ has started on a multi-purpose 10-20 metre beam. 2CN is worried about his audio, but Bert getting out OK on 40. Seen lately at opera was 2PT, but no arias from Alan on Ham bands yet. 2KQ QRL with old timers session on 80; Jack has invited ZL2BT to "Killarney of VK". Bill 2AMM very pleased with his racecourse QTH and has worked new country—HS.

2KG has completed the "super" Rx and Ken pleased with results. Frank 2FX has just moved into new home so no time for Ham Radio. Welcome back to 2AFA. Harry using TA12 on 40 c.w., had first QSO for 13 years—working 2SO, the most consistent 40 c.w. man on Hunter. 2CW showed up on 20 for local QSO, but Bill QRL with work. We have news of another Ham at R.A.A.F. Williamstown—F/L Burston, ex-VK3, VK4 and JA. Len hopes to operate all bands with 100 watts. Congrats to our v.h.f. man 2XY who QSOed 2ANF/P near Bathurst on 144. Ivan 2IS just completed another project—speech amp. with 2A3s. 2WU on 20 occasionally, Lew tries to get on once a week. 2NN on 40 at week-ends, and Don only on c.w. yet. Notable absentee in R.D. Contest was 2CI. 2YS active 40-20 and Norm recently contacted Stan 2ZW, one of the founders of Newcastle Radio Club. A week ago Ernie Baker 2FP, one of our pioneer Hams (1913) celebrated his silver wedding on the same day as his parents celebrated their golden wedding. A photo made the front page of the Newcastle "Herald". Ernie's XYL is almost as well known as himself and all the gang offer their congratulations. 2ADS has suddenly appeared on 40 phone—a beautiful transmission Doug.

COALFIELDS AND LAKES

Some of the Coalfield boys, namely, 2ANU, 2JZ, 2VU, 2KF, 2ADT, 2PZ, 2YL and a couple of associates, attended the Hunter Branch meeting at Maitland last month. Apart from bursts during the R.D. week-end not much activity has been observed. 2ADT is at present putting ASV Rx into shape for 2XO. Jack is on school holidays as usual! 2PZ been actually cleaning up the shack, you can actually get into the room now! Ken 2ANU using xtal control on 144 and getting good results. 2VU not on as much as usual, but makes 6 and 40 whenever possible. 2YL made a few contacts on all bands during the R.D. Contest.

Cess 2KR working Sydney on 144 and cross band to 6 with 2GA and 2RU. 2RU has been getting an occasional break on 6. 2ARV active on 40 phone and c.w. during the week-ends. Cec 2KR has arrangements under way for the Woy Woy field day—don't forget the date, 18th November—we hope to see you all there.

FRANK ("POP") STROUD

Many Amateurs in Sydney's Eastern Suburbs are sorrowful at the death of Mr. Frank Stroud, late of Bondi, and known affectionately as "Pop". His passing in Liverpool Hospital (N.S.W.) was the result of a road accident. Always a keen receiver constructor and listener to doings on the popular Amateur bands, including v.h.f.'s, "Pop" was a welcome and endearing visitor to many of our stations. Seldom was heard a heartier laugh for a man of 72 years. He came to Australia in his youth, from England's Sussex, and played a prominent part in the surf club activities of the 1900's. Frank Stroud was an engineer of considerable ability—no job was too tough for him to tackle, and his radio receivers and amplifiers were worthy creations. His loss a few months previously of his beloved wife left a great emptiness in his life, but intimate friends and relatives only were aware of his feelings. A fine old English gentleman has gone on his last journey, and I like to feel that "Pop" is happy in the re-union he undoubtedly visualised. This planet is the poorer by the going of people of such high ideals and calibre. The deepest sympathy is extended on behalf of "Pop's" many Amateur Radio friends to the sons and daughters of his family.—D.E.K.

WESTERN ZONE

The R.D. Contest this year seemed to be better supported than in previous years, and all contestants will await with great interest the final results. Inter-zone competitions helped to stimulate interest in N.S.W., and the final scores look like being very close.

A vigorous outbreak of v.h.f'itis is sweeping through the country and interest was stirred up by the visit of members of the Gladesville Radio Club to the mountains and Mt. Panorama near Bathurst. Trev 2NS contacted a number of the mobile and portable stations on 144, and is really sold on the v.h.f. bands now. With Phil also active on 144, and 50 Mc. to be dealt with very soon, there has been little activity on the "d.c. bands" (who originated that phrase anyway?).

2BT, Eugowra, back on 50 Mc. with a converted 522 putting a very nice signal into Forbes. Bill inspected 2AMV's 144 mod.-osc and super-regen. gear and rushed back home to sort through the junk pile. Another sig on two very shortly and very welcome too, as the unbroken hiss of the ASV becomes a bit monotonous. Cross-band 6 and 2 from 2AMV and 2WH are nightly drill now.

2JW and 2ALX are cooking up something on the v.h.f's. Bill 2AWY was expected in Forbes with the Apexians but too much work prevented the trip. Don't miss next time Bill or else. Johnnie Barradine is with the Forestry Commission, but don't know your call OM, would like a QSO some time to get all the low down. Skene, 2SS of Lawson, heard keeping VK3 skeds on 7 Mc. 2RT, of Katoomba, runs 808s with 75 watts on 40 and 20. Building 144 Mc. gear, being in the airways game Morrie says he meets more DX than he works. Con 2LZ still mainly on 144. Alex 2EX still not active. 2HZ works two skeds a week only.

SOUTH COAST AND SOUTHERN

An invitation from the North Eastern Zone in VK3 was extended to the Hams in this zone at Albury and Jim 2ANQ and Art 2EU accepted Murray 3HZ's invitation. Both attended the annual convention at Shepparton. On behalf of the VK3 boys down your way many thanks for the hospitality Murray. 2MF and 2AKY can be found on 40 if stations calling them are any indication. Skip has been very short, even 2EU can't hear these stations. Understand that 2UT has been cancelled, the operator has been in England for some time. 2EU hopes to contact him with his G call.

Stations active down Albury way include 2ANQ, 2QE, 2QD and 2JA. A recent visitor there was DL7AO who lived in Berlin. He had some interesting gear to display, was a manufacturer of test equipment and has something hot in the Rx line. Noel 2OJ is trying out a vertical antenna after using the 80-80 aside job; after 15 years the old faithful mod. class B 46s are being replaced by a pair of 807s. Incidentally remember when those 46s were on sale for 4/6 and 6/2 rectifiers to suit at 2/6, who said all this disposal gear was at bargain prices. 2RS Don has done the very thing we often read about, the local theatre was giving forth in good style when suddenly the voice of 2RS took over. Don found an unshielded wire in the talkie equipment, and all is well again. Don received his call on 16th August was on the air same night. Rig—ATS v.f.o. into 813, 807s AB2 and a really f.b. signal.

New Ham in zone is 2JC who I believe is a Naval man and located at Canberra; no details of gear as yet. 2PI had rather a lucky break recently. Lucky in one respect that he got across 10 kv. and woke up later in hospital. According to Les, he had no recollection of what happened and is back at work after a week off. Preliminary results suggest that the Northern Zone will take out the R.D. Contest side wager for the six highest scores. Our congrats to these boys. I thought Len 6LG's remarks were the most apt during R.D. During the peak hours he said, "When I cut the carrier come out fighting!" Many thanks to the South Coast and Tablelands group for their fine efforts in the Contest. Looks like 2DY winning the 813 and 2OY the second prize of an 1852 and magic eye tubes. Prizes donated by 2DO and 2AKY respectively. Off on holidays next month so may not have much to offer next issue.

—

VICTORIA

FAR NORTH WESTERN ZONE

Members of this zone gave valuable assistance at an Exhibition held at the Mildura Town Hall and conducted by the local Scout Movement. The Exhibition turned out to be a first-rate show with Ham activities claiming plenty of attention. 3TI's rig was installed at the Town

Hall and contacts were made with Amateurs throughout Australia. Local Hams turned out and manned the show right through. Everybody did a bit and we all enjoyed it.

The zone greatly appreciates the assistance given by all Hams contacted by keeping technical stuff at a minimum and giving the layman audience plenty to talk about.

There are quite a number of Hams in this zone these days, including 3GZ, 3MF, 3AMJ, 3AJF, 3AUG, 3SN and 3TI.

NORTH EASTERN ZONE

John 3ACK has taken up photography. Doug Twig, from Avenel, is a constant visitor to 3UI. Thanks to Doug, I was able to replace a broken halyard that came adrift in a storm. 3CI is hearing wonderful signals on 2 metres with a Lazy H beam sitting high above the terrain. Sid has now received his gear from VK5, so we will be having another one to populate the v.h.f. bands. 3IZ heard putting out good signals on phone and c.w. Hope to contact you soon Peter for some news.

Notice 3ALN is now at Mangalore. Investigate Doug, so we can get him on the hook-up. Who can investigate 3AGZ? He is now at Echuca. Hope this is in our territory. Saw two fugitives from the Ham bands—3AGG and 3PE—playing golf, now I know where you boys hide out. 3YV sadly missed on the hook-up. Very sorry to hear you are confined to bed again Howard, zone sends best wishes for a speedy recovery.

Zone members were noticeably absent from 40 metres after the magazine came out. Now don't be offended fellers, I haven't a call sign allotted yet. My XYL will be pleased when it comes, might keep me at home more than one night a week; 3UI gets blamed for the rest.

3UI, Doug and yours truly struggled ¾ mile with 40 ft. mast on shoulders. The Vulgar Boatman had nothing on us by the time it was erected. Neighbours around take one look at the antennae and blame me for all static crashes very prevalent around this area—what hope have you. 3KR had the makings of a 20 metre rotary beam in his back yard, designed by a bridge builder, I'm told; ah, hem, seeing is believing. In closing, the v.h.f. gang in this zone would welcome all newcomers to 6 and 2, and that includes you Ken.

EASTERN ZONE

Once again we have had a large flood in this area and the usual hooey appeared in the press. Personally, I think some reporters should carry shovels, not typewriters! The emergency gear was all in order during the flood period, but fortunately, was not required.

The annual meeting of the Sale Sub-Branch was held at Maffra on 23rd August. Twenty members were present and a good time was had by all. Officers for the ensuing year are: President, Cliff Arnold 3AJA; Vice-P., 3AHK; and Secretary, Lindsay Maguire 3IO. Not having any money, we haven't got a Treasurer! The September meeting of the club is to be held at Bairnsdale, with films on radio and allied subjects.

Associate Leo Dwyer passed the A.O.C.P. exams held in July and is awaiting his call sign; more QRM! 3ALA hasn't built up a modulator yet, however he did work a VK1 and has a card to prove it, so maybe the AT3 isn't so bad! 3ABF tells me his 807s are now behaving nicely, but he won't be on the air for a while as he is changing houses at present. 3VO was marooned at Regional 3GI during the flood. 3AFG not heard lately. 3ABP is still earbashing on 40, but handles the zone QSLs very neatly. Letters to hand from John Jarman 3ADA state that he is back in Adelaide for a time and the address in August "A.R." will find him.

3LV and 3AMV sneering at my spy service; you'll be sorry! 3PR waiting on his new house, revamping his rig in the interim. 3TH very QRL, not heard much on 80. 3SS constructing a frequency meter, I wonder if the R.I's. visit had anything to do with this? The zone hook-up has been rather small of late, and where are all the back sliders? Can't all be busy, all the time!

SOUTH WESTERN ZONE

3HG has got his alternator going and now has his rig .a.c. operated; heard a lot of Neil on 80 lately. 3JA not quite as active on the l.f. bands as usual, lately Jack has been having Rx trouble. 3AGD quiet lately and had a bad frost with the lambing season. 3II has just returned from a trip to VK5. Leigh got good results from the ZC1 while working portable from that State. Worked 3AGV quite a lot on 40 this month. Gordon still has his regular contacts with 2SS; Gordon is also building up equipment for 50 Mc. 3ADN only heard spasmodically, says he's an expert at de-bogging vehicles, especially Land Rovers. Yours truly has finished playing around with tape recording and starting on s.s.s.c. on 80 mx.

Frank 3ZU has been on the sick list with pleurisy and is now on holidays and hopes to take his portable rig with him. 3DX has also been on the not-so-well list with the 'flu, but is back in harness now. Harry 3HF has finished all the work connected with switching over the local broadcast station to high power, so we should see and hear a lot more of him. Norm 3EQ hasn't been very active of late as he is working day and night and of course doesn't get on the air. Ted 3PS back on the air after a short brake, and puts out a fair signal for only 12 watts. Eric Giddings sat for the exam. but luck just wasn't with him—better luck next time. Bill Wines has finished putting up his new 80 ft. antenna—the Ws are much better; his XYL has been ill but is OK again now, she never misses the broadcast on Sundays. Bill Wines would like all Hams intending to come up for the **Convention on 20th and 21st of October** to let him or 3ZU know immediately as there are a couple of other functions here at that time and the accommodation position will be serious if you don't let them know.

3APG has broke the silence again and has come on 80 mx with QRP—1 watt, using an RC16B and has been having a few contacts. 3BU has been giving his portable equipment an airing again. 3AKE has got 576 and 144 Mc. gear going mobile, is still trying to break through to Melbourne on 576 Mc. 3ALG is now at his new QTH but will be a while yet before he can get on the air. 3BW has built himself a new Tx covering from 80 to 10 metres a.m./f.m. and is very pleased with the results; he has not yet got the f.m. going yet. Most of the Geelong gang have not been active as some are building houses which account for this.

GEELONG AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The first meeting of the month was taken up with a very fine lecture and demonstration of 576 Mc. equipment by 3AKE. Ed used a field strength meter and Lecher wires during this demonstration. It is hoped that more of the Geelong gang will be operating on this band in the near future. On 15th August members went to see an exhibition held at the Gordon Institute of Technology where many pieces of equipment were on display to interest them. Then on 29th August an interesting lecture by club member Dick Heighway 3ABK on his tour with the mobile television unit entertained members. Dick had large scale diagrams to illustrate his lecture which lasted for 2¼ hours, after which he handed round approx. 200 snapshots taken during the tour.

— . . . —

QUEENSLAND

CLARE'S CORNER

Nice to hear 4NF back on the air again. Noel has been off for about six months and managed to get back on in time for the R.D. Contest. New calls heard during the Contest were 4GF, 4TN and 4LR. 4WF missed out in the Contest, being away on holidays. Hope you had a good time Bill and didn't worry too much over the DX. 4YA out of hospital and is now building up his strength before erecting a two element beam. Hope you will soon be fully recovered Bill.

Pleased to see 4UX and XYL at the last W.I.A. meeting. Claude, who is now installed in the country, was on a week-end visit. Some Hams have all the luck. While we have difficulty in getting QSL cards, some VK4s have them to burn! 4CI is building a new final using a pair of 211s. Whacko Alex.

Heard 4WG's voice eminating from the ether the other night after a long silence. 4NC called Wally and remarked he was putting out the usual 4WG signal, and got quite a shock when told he was at 4TN's shack. The road to 4FJ's shack is paved with certificates. I wonder if you hold the record Ray?

— . . . —

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

The monthly general meeting of the VK5 Division was held in the newly painted and re-decorated club rooms to a very representative gathering, and all present were loud in their praise of the improvement to the meeting room. The entertainment for the night took the form of a buy and sell evening, and I use the word entertainment in its strict sense, because I am never sure as to whether the members come along to buy or sell, or just to enjoy the antics of the auctioneer. Due to a family bereavement, Dougal 5BY could not officiate as the auctioneer, and his place was taken at short notice by "Ned" Kelly 5LW who gave of his best and the audience were convulsed for the better part of the evening.

Quite a lot of gear changed hands, and there is no doubt that these evenings are a huge success and from all opinions could be held quarterly. Naturally with such an evening before them, the members were not very interested in general business and therefore there is nothing to report in that direction.

Among the welcome visitors were Frank 5FP, Doug 3DW, Ron 5VS, Charlie 5WQ ex-3WQ, and last but not least, Ivan Tickoffski (YU3AC) who upon investigation proved to be Launce Deane 5LD whose usually restrained sense of humour apparently broke its fetters for a short space. To these gentlemen we say a hearty welcome and come again.

Talking to Doug 3DW after the meeting, he said that he would have liked to thank all the boys who had made his visit such an enjoyable one, but as that would be a little difficult he would leave it to me to do the honours. He said that everybody had gone out of their way to make him feel at home and he was very grateful. Brian 5FQ and his wife are in the seventh heaven of delight this month, as the stork delivered a little daughter (Robin Alison) on schedule, and naturally radio is playing second fiddle at the moment.

Whilst I claim no originality for the following cynical view of the present rise in radio prices, I do feel that it sums up the position very well. In 1945 we were "broke," so we used 807s. In 1951 we used 807s, so we are "broke." Get it?

Noticed Jack 5JZ at the meeting, and everybody gave him a hearty welcome. Jack is a very busy man and finds it difficult to attend many meetings. The nickname of Pansy that I possess, and I emphasise that it is a nickname, pursued me through the R.D. Contest and several VK2 stations had a sly dig at me. 2AAB almost said it, and 2SB would have liked to, but my deep and fierce voice daunted the pair of them. Noticed Pete 3FM in the front stalls at the meeting and he appeared to be enjoying himself no end. I was beginning to wonder if he would have to retire before the meeting was over, so hysterical did he become.

All the Mount Gambier gang were decidedly active in the R.D. Contest. 5TW has his 2 mx. Rx going well now and Tom is concentrating on the Tx. 5CH is, walking around with his chest well to the front these days. The reason? Well he has had a report from VK3 on his 2 mx transmissions. Whilst Claude is not very far from Victoria, nevertheless it is the best DX so far. 5KB has finished his term with the D.C.A. at the Mount, and Peter is on his way back to the big smoke to increase the local QRM. 5JA has left England for home and before these notes are printed John should be back in Australia. Incidentally, he announced his engagement to a lass from the Highlands, so expect that a reduction in radio activities can be forecast.

5MS had quite a good day on 20 during the R.D. Contest and Stewart can often be heard on 2 mx, that is when the memory or resistors do not fail. He had the misfortune to lose another h.t. tranny, probably strained it during the Contest! 5FD is still busy settling down in the new home, but cut short his lunch on the Sunday to work enough stations in the Contest for an entry. That's the spirit John. 5KU is still active on 20 and 40 mx phone and c.w., and judging by the number of stations heard calling him he must have had an enjoyable debut in the Contest. Did you work them all Erg?

5CJ has had a temporary transformer in the 40 mx rig and it seems to work as well as the permanent one. Col is very pleased with the reports on the xtal controlled 144 Tx. On the first test the report from VK3 was R5 S9, and although the VK3 listener is not very far into Victoria, it is definitely on VK3 soil and out of "line of sight." 5XJ was heard several times this month with a perfectly modulated signal on 20 mx, in contact with that acme of tailoring perfection, "Beau Sullivan" 5JK. I noted that Colin had recently returned from a sojourn in hospital and was on the easy list, trust you are OK now OM.

A welcome visitor to VK5 this month was Laurie Georgeson, son of Jim Georgeson (ex-3JG now 2AKU). Laurie is a member of the flaming staff and coiled serpent fraternity, many of whom have found their way to the QTH of "Doc" 5MD recently. Very subtle, very subtle.

I have been brushing up my alphabet lately and find that the modern rhyming of the said alphabet is quite intriguing. To wit—

C is for Camel who often has the Humps
and M is for Muriel who now has the Mumps.

Well you can't blame me Muriel, you did tell the whole of 20 mx the other night, now didn't you?

4DF is still about with low power on 80 and 40 mx and is almost ready for some c.w. on those bands providing that the top speed does not exceed 8 w.p.m.! Wally thinks that he may have the a.c. power in two years, perhaps.

5RJ has been erecting, de-erecting, and re-erecting aerial poles this month, and together with 5DF and Ken (call sign, if any, not known) had the pleasure of seeing and hearing

one of the 50 foot poles doing a ballet dance at the mercy of the wind and finally crashing around his head on his temporary shelter from the elements. Darcy says that it will be another few months before he can get on the air now, after nearly a year's silence. The neighbours enjoyed it, anyway!

5HL Henry and his XYL were host and hostess at a posh "do" this month, at a well known Adelaide hostelry, and to be on the safe side I bought myself a new tie, just in case, but the postman never blew his whistle. Too bad, and with me now able to eat peas off my knife in the best Rose Park manner. Life deals some bitter blows! Heard 6DX the other night saying to a VK5, "Give my regards to the lunatic who writes the VK5 notes." Thanks Bill, but could we be a little more formal. Mister Lunatic, please.

5MA has been very busy this month reconstructing his tower and managed to gather all the local boys together to assist in the raising of this mighty project some 40 odd feet or so into the heavyside layer. Fred has been heard a little on 40 mx. 5BC has been putting his portable Tx and Rx through its paces in preparation for his annual holidays, and no doubt as these notes are being read, Hughie is entertaining all and sundry with the tales of how the big ones got away at Normanville, both in the air and in the water. 5KW is another one of the Upper Murray gang that has added another length to his tower. It would seem that Harry and 5MA are training to be pilots or something considering the height that their towers now stand. Harry also enjoyed the R.D. Contest and is eagerly awaiting the next one.

5CF has been on the air consistently since getting his call sign and is putting a good signal out considering the power. Murray has had a good run of luck with the ZLs and ran up a creditable score in the R.D. Contest.

5SL has been heard on 40 mx a lot during the last month on phone and c.w., but as the stork has been heard flapping its wings around Barri lately, Laurie has not had much time for radio. FLASH! By a strange coincidence, as I type this paragraph, Laurie has just called me on the telegraph and proudly tells me that he has become the father of a bonny bouncing boy. Is he excited, I thought by the speed of the sounder that the most powerful broadcasting station in the State had serious trouble with its crystal detector or worse. Congratulations Skinny, and you too Pat, but gee whiz, it makes me fee old. It only seems the other day that Laurie was an office boy in short pants, and so keen on radio that he would come in two hours early in the morning, just for the chance to play the wide range records on the air. Those were the days, Skinny, at least I did get some respect from you then, even if you did call me Fatty behind my back!

— . . . —

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

BY L. G. WILSON, VK6LG

Radio activity by the VK6s on 7 and 3.5 Mc. still seems surprisingly small, there was, of course, a sudden burst of "warming up" just prior to the recent Remembrance Day Contest, no doubt many of those stations will not be heard again on the domestic bands until next year. About the only stations showing much life on 7 Mc. phone lately have been 6WU, 6LU, 6RS, 6LG, 6MO and 6WL, week-ends there are a few more about for a while. Even heard 6MO calling a ZL one evening. You will really have to get that new modulator finished this year OM. 6LU has been tickled pink with several reports on his phone from ZL. Be careful Lu, someone will be christening you "Loud Lu"—or something. 6LW made one brief appearance and with his 7 point 7S9 was heard in New Zealand at 5 by 5, should have hung round a bit longer OM and had a contact with him.

Not many VK4s about lately at this spot, but sometimes a "good one" bobs up; did hear a rumour to the effect that 4CC had actually had a contact with a VK6 on 7 and 3.5 Mc. Hear Olive's voice sometimes floating over from that "windy" place, usually it doesn't last long though. From the southern part of the Far East the voice at 3AGF seems to be the most active, though some of the Ballarat gang are running him a good second. From a little farther north, the Dubbo mob are often heard having a "short" one with Relentless Lennie. The VK2 marine mobile (in "Our 'Arbour") seems to be doing pretty good for himself.

Can't read morse yet so don't know what the c.w. boys are netting, have heard there is a fair bit of DX about some nights—and the mornings too. Have found 7 Mc. so interesting lately that I haven't been doing much snooping on 14, but have heard that there are not a great number of VK6s active there either, I suppose the usual dog fights, chain ganging and piggy backing still goes on. The old 80 metre band still has its few faithfuls, now added to by 6RS, also heard a fairly good signal coming from 6BO a couple of times lately. Congratulations 6LM on your re-appearance among the "oie women."

Seems to be something wrong with the higher frequencies lately, don't hear many of those boys about on 7 Mc. of a Sunday morning arranging their skeds for six and two, probably they are all busy polishing up the knobs ready for the season. Seems likely they will have a couple of new additions to the family in 6X1 and 6BS.

— . . . —

TASMANIA

Remembrance Day Contest held during August created a general interest and it was pleasing to hear quite a number of old call signs operating once again. From what can be gathered at this juncture, a reasonably good score should result as from figures to hand, indicate a percentage of 55 per cent. of all Hams participated, which is truly an indication of interest taken by the members of this Division.

Congratulations must be extended to 7LJ who operated on three bands—80, 40 and 20, both phone and c.w.—the power was 100 watts to a 813 in the final. Other top scores were 7AJ, 7OM, 7BH, 7NC, 7RX and 7JB. Bad luck with some of the gear resulted in 7AL, unfortunately only managing to scrape up seven or eight contacts which was disappointing as far as Tom was concerned.

Our new associate, Mr. Aspinal gave a very interesting lecture on the cathode ray oscillograph. Its use and construction was easily followed by all those in attendance and towards the end of the lecture an actual demonstration was given. The meeting concluded at 10.30 p.m. after a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Aspinal for his very interesting information. A letter from 7AB with regard to a convention which is proposed to be held in Burnie during the long week-end was read and left in obeyance until the next meeting. Attendance was not as good as usual, but now the weather is on the improve, should show an increase in future meetings.

Activities on all bands this month have been restricted, owing to the poor conditions and except for one or two, there has been a noticable absence of VK7 Hams. News form 7EJ indicates that he will in future be operating on 20 during the evening and will be looking out for any of the old gang if skip does not take too much of a hand with regards to local signals.

7JP is back in town after a long absence, still busy with household activities but signals should shortly be heard. Plans for the completion of the s.s.s.c. Tx are well in hand although until this is completed a 100 watter will be the rig in use. Incidentally Leon, don't forget the meetings are still held on the first Wednesday of the month and the Photographic Rooms is the place. Strife in the modulator has been had by 7FM, but Tom soon traced the breakdown and now everybody is again happy.

Heard 7DW with a solid signal recently, Doug has been sticking to c.w. since his return to Ham activities but from a recent talk about modulation transformers, seems as though my old mate will soon be a member of the "earbashers" club. Soon to be a proud owner of a "740" Eddystone Rx will be one of our associate members, Max Hynds, who, owing to a disability, has not been able to procure the necessary license. A further application has been made by Max and we trust we will have another Ham in our midst in the very near future.

Talking of associate members, another member to be welcomed to the fold is Ray Calvert who is at present swotting for the A.O.C.P. examination. 7AF still engaged in the manufacture of a tape recorder with the help of a new lathe. Another member engaged also on a recorder is 7CW who is well advanced with his unit. The 144 Mc. gear of 7MY is now being operated by 7OM whose signals were S9 at approx. six miles distant. Incidentally Bob did not have any aerial connected at the time which certainly indicates the amount of r.f. available. 7DA wrestling with a new aerial which is to be fed with 300 ohm ribbon. Heard with an f.b. signal during the Contest was 7SK, activity being restricted owing to pressure of work. Bad luck with his power supply has put 7GB off the air for a while, Ted is generally on for a while around midnight, and 40 mx is the band used. No signals yet heard from 7HB at Richmond, how about getting some gear out Harold and let us hear from you in the future.

NORTHERN ZONE

7BQ has his nice shiny new car but won't let any Hams near it in case they want to carve their calls on it. VK3 saw a little of 7LZ recently who took a flying trip over Bass Strait and enjoyed his holiday. One thing about the R.D. Contest was the way it brought out some of our members who seem to be hibernating. 7RK's XYL has been in hospital and we all hope she will be out by now.

Did you hear about all the goodwill publicity Amateur Radio got over the R.D. Contest Just look at this: Saturday—Item in State news, Tas. A.B.C. Monday—Large paragraph in "Examiner" and "Mercury"; item in State news, Tas. A.B.C.; item Launceston Com. 7EX; item Launceston Com. 7LA; interview with zone secretary 7AM on Monday morning on 7LA. The following Saturday—Talk on R.D. Contest by State Secretary, Len Edwards, in the A.B.C. "Town and Country Magazine." Well, after all that VK7 must win the trophy.

7RB and 7XW were observed with a lovely, oh so beautiful, so georgeous, so nifty, R.C.A. Field Intensity Meter checking the field strengths of the two best b.c. stations in Australia.